

# AFGLC HONORS PROF. JOHN U. BALIS WITH SCHOLARSHIP

**Tampa, Florida:** Professor Chris P. Tsokos, President, Dr. Demetrios G. Halkias, Vice President of The American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture, AFGLC, and Dr. Santo Nicosia, Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Pathology of the USF College of Medicine, are indeed happy to announce the establishment of “The AFGLC John U. Balis Scholarship”. This scholarship is in honor of Professor Balis’ retirement from the College of Medicine where he taught for more than 25 years. The scholarship is endowed by his colleagues, family and friends in the amount of more than \$30,000. Dr. Balis is Executive Vice President of AFGLC and the scholarship is structured in perpetuity.



*Professor John U. Balis*

Born in Calamata, Greece, in 1932, Dr. Balis received his degree in Medicine at the University of Athens and interned at the Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago. After residencies in anatomical and pediatric pathology in Pittsburgh and Toronto, he pursued a distinguished career in research and teaching, with a specialty in pulmonary pathobiology with focus on the pathophysiology of the lung surfactant system. He has been awarded a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in medical research by the Council of Canada and the Scientific Award of the Canadian Association of Pathologists, and has five times earned the title Outstanding Preclinical Faculty from the USF College of Medicine. He has served on the NIH study section on pathology and been an editor of the journal Circulatory Shock.

Dr. Balis' teaching career has included positions on the faculty of medicine at Loyola University (Maywood, Illinois) and the University of South Florida, where he has taught since 1978. He has also directed electron microscopy laboratories at Loyola, the VA Hospital in Tampa, and USF, and has served as director of the USF Medical Teaching Program in Pathology since 1979. On several occasions he has acted as interim chairman of the Pathology Department.

Active in many professional societies, Dr. Balis has also served as member and chairman of the Promotion and Tenure Committee of the USF Medical College and in various offices of the Pathology Alumni Foundation, which he founded. The recipient of many research grants from NIH, the Veterans' Administration, and the U.S. Army, Dr. Balis has also served as a grant reviewer for the NIH. He is the author or co-author of nearly a hundred scientific articles.

Dr. Balis is married to Dr. Bayzar Erkman-Balis, also a pathologist, and their son Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, has followed in his parents' footsteps.

AFGLC is proud to recognize such a distinguished scholar and teacher. We are particularly gratified that he has chosen to give so generously of his valuable time to the cause of Hellenism by serving as a director of AFGLC and chairman of the annual Educational Forum. The scholarship established in his name through the generosity of his admirers demonstrates the esteem in which Dr. Balis is held by his peers and reflects his own love for his students and his medical profession.